Assistance to Handloom Sector

3459. SHRI BASUDEB MOHA-PATRA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken a decision to provide assistance to handloom sector for commercial exploitation of its products:

(b) if so, what are the details thereof.

(c) what is the total number of hand-; loom weavers cooperative societies work- [ing in different parts of the country; and!

(d) what specific facilities have been i given to these societies by Government' for improvement of the economic condi- tion of the weavers ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH: ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MIN-! ISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING IN-DUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India is imp lementing several schemes for promoting the sale of handloom products such as :—

(i) Market Development Assistance; Scheme;

(ii) Opening of handloom marketing complexes in different parts of the country through the National Handloom Development Cor-: poration;

(iii) Giving assistance for National Design Collection programmes for the promotion of unique weaves and designs through Exhibition-cum-sales;

(iv) Organisation of National Hand-loom Expose in major cities of the country and;

(v) Extending Cash Compensatory Support. Import Replenishments. Duty Draw Back etc., to exporters of cotton handloom items registered with the Handloom Export Promotion Council;

(c) The total number of Handloom weavers Cooperative Societies which are working in different parts of the country is 15122.

(d) The facilities being given to the handloom sector including cooperative societies to improve the economic condition of the weavers *inter-alia* include;

(i) Scheme for promoting the marketing of handloom products through Market Development Assistance Scheme;

(ii) Credit at concessional rates of in-terest through NABARD refinance;

(iii) Training of weavers and managerial staff of societies to improve productivity and training pro-grammes for better management of societies :

(iv) Ensure fuller employment potential through the lanata cloth production scheme;

(v) Supply of yarn through National Handloom Development Cor-poration.

(vi) Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme and Thrift Fund Scheme.

(vii) Scheme for modernisation /renova-tion/purchase of looms.

Financing of Projects of Ispat Profiles Ltd. by IFCI

3460. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial Finance Cor-poration of India has financed any project of Ispat Profiles Ltd; and

(b) if so, whether the loan agreement was signed at the residence of the Director of the beneficiary company ?.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI) : (a) and (b) Industrial Finance Corporation of India (IFCI) has reported that it has, in consortium with some other financial institutions and banks, sanctioned various Rupee and foreign currency loans to the unit. The various loan agreements for this purpose were signed at the regional office of IFCI at Calcutta between April 1986 and May 1990.